Committee to Safeguard Employees' Interest

1916. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI JIBON ROY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on 16th August, 1994, a Committee was constituted to formulate methods to safeguard employees' interest;

(b) whether the said Committee have submitted its report; and

(c) if so, the salient features of the said report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM)): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. It has been decided that the Committee may progressively implement the decisions arrived at without waiting for a formal report of the Committee. Salient decisions taken by the Committee so far are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Details regarding salient decisions taken by the committee so far.

(i) Information brouchures will be published by DOT twice a year. This will give information on application for new telephone connections, shifts, additional accessories, waiting list, future plans and commercial information.

(ii) Registration for New Telephone connection will be possible from anywhere in India. Standard formats will be made available in all Customer Service Centres.

(iii) Procedure for third Party/legal transfers of telephones will be streamlined such that the necessary formalities will be got completed within 4 weeks time. The bills for the transferer will also be settled within this time.

(iv) Existing procedure will be simplified for use of Landlord's telephone by Tenant. A joint declaration from the landlord and the tenant alongwith Rs. 100 as fee will be sufficient for an agreed period.

(v) Safe custody of telephones connected to electronic exchanges will be taken up when the custody is for six months or more. Restoration of safe custody will be done within a month.

(vi) Banks will be utilised for revenue collection in addition to the existing arrangements.

(vii) More Customer Service Centres with service approach and more centralisation of customer's service function will be introduced. Technology modernisation through use of computers will be taken up in important centres for quick response to customers requirements and queries.

Euroissue of VSNL

1917. SHRI M. A. BABY:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India is not allowing the VSNL to go ahead with its $ 600 million Euroissue plan;

(b) if so, whether the main argument for such a decision is that the VSNL is not in urgent need of funds;

(c) whether it is also a fact that it has also decided that the VSNL need not tap the domestic market for the time being on the same grounds; and

(d) if so, why the VSNL was allowed to moot and go ahead with the Euroissue in the first place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sir, the Government has not refused permission to VSNL to go ahead with its Euroissue plan. The matter is under consideration of the Government.

(b) Question does not arise in view of answer at 'a' above.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise in view of answers at 'a' to 'c' above.

Letters Written by M.Ps.

1918. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, is not responding to the letters written by the Members of Parliament;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of letters received by him in each of the last three years and the action taken thereon;

(d) how many of these letters are still pending alongwith the steps taken to expedite the replies thereof;

(e) the number of letters received from the subscribers during the month of